

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 664

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Patrick Ryan McFolin,
2009 graduate of McGavock High School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those students who, through their natural talents, unflagging commitment to academic excellence, and relentless work, have distinguished themselves in and beyond the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Patrick Ryan McFolin is one such extraordinary student who recently earned his high school diploma and graduated with the 2009 class at McGavock High School; and

WHEREAS, a student leader who has excelled in his high school classes, Ryan McFolin succeeded in passing all of his Gateway exams; while many of these subjects came naturally to this exceedingly bright student, Ryan has a severe learning disability in math as a result of having Asperger's Syndrome; and

WHEREAS, despite this disability that threatened to keep him from earning his diploma and continuing his studies at the university level, Ryan McFolin was unremitting in his efforts to succeed; and

WHEREAS, through months of diligent study and tutoring, steady composure during the examination, and steadfast commitment of time and talent in preparatory classes, Mr. McFolin has achieved outstanding academic success, has passed the State's Gateway algebra test, and has joined the ranks of the best and brightest students in Tennessee and our country; and

WHEREAS, in his remarkable high school career, Ryan has demonstrated outstanding academic commitment and has distinguished himself as a talented individual with the drive to overcome vast obstacles to achieve his dreams; and

WHEREAS, a leader among his peers, Mr. McFolin was named in *Who's Who Among American High School Students* for 2005 and 2006; was nominated to The National Society of

High School Scholars in 2006; attained the rank of Eagle Scout in 2007; completed the People to People Student Ambassador Program in the summer of 2007; was nominated for both the Presidential Classroom program in Washington, D.C., and the Congressional Student Leadership Conference in 2007; and was nominated to the Congressional Youth Leadership Council in 2008; and

WHEREAS, Ryan's display of intellectual aptitude and ambition surely bodes well for his future success as he proudly begins college in the fall at Volunteer State Community College; and

WHEREAS, his noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for his parents, Don and Phyllis McFolin, his school, and his community, all of whom have supported and uplifted him as he has labored to reach this significant milestone; and

WHEREAS, Ryan's dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend and honor 2009 McGavock High School graduate, Patrick Ryan McFolin, on his impressive academic achievement, recognize him for earning his high school diploma despite having a disability that affected his performance in math, and extend to him our best wishes for a happy, successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.